Your Lie in April

7

NAOSHI ARAKAWA

四月は君の嘘

7

I met the girl under full-bloomed cherry blossoms, and my fate has begun to change.

新川直司

STORY & CHARACTORS

The former prodigal pianist, Arima Kousei, became unable to play the piano after his mother's death in the autumn of his 11th year.

As a result, his life has become monotone, and he lives his days without chasing any particular goal. But his life changes in his 14th spring, when he meets the personality-rich violinist, Miyazono Kaori.

Through playing as Kaori's accompanist, and by performing in a solo piano contest, Kousei has caused his day to day to grow more colorful. In addition, Kaori received an invitation to the Towa Hall Gala Concert. "Kousei and Kaori, the ultimate combination that previously excited the audience has reunited!" -- their friend Watari is overjoyed. However, on the day of the gala concert, Kaori is nowhere to be seen!!!

Kousei wanted to change the performance order around to buy a bit more time. However, Mlike Toshiya, the winner of the contest, was very critical of Kaori's performance, and was determined to have the stage to himself. Instead, Kousei, the accompanist, began to play by himself, stirring up the audience. The music of a rage-driven Kousei, however, served only to cause discomfort.

By concentrating on the performance, Kousei, who had lost sound from his world, was able to recognize his own reckless playing style. "Mother loved this song. She played it like this."

Kousei was able to completely change his violent performance, and cover the audience with a glimmering sound. While wrapped in his mother's words and thoughts, the boy now approaches the climax of his performance.

Miyazono Kaori
A violinist with an overwhelming personality Invited to the Towa Hall Gala Concert, but is nowhere to be seen on the day of the event
Oh, I see.
It's because you're not looking down all the time anymore
Arima Kousei
A former piano prodigy who became unable to play after his mother's death Was expecting to play a duet with Kaori at the gala concert, but ended up performing by himself
When the piece is the same
why do different people go on stage?
Sawabe Tsubaki
Kousei's childhood friend. Very good at sports, and was part of the main battery for the softball club Hopelessly terrible at studying
Seto Hiroko
One of the top pianists in Japan. Responsible for providing guidance to Kousei as he learns to play piano Was a colleague from the same music college as Kousei's mother, Arima Saki

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新川直司
Naoshi Arakawa

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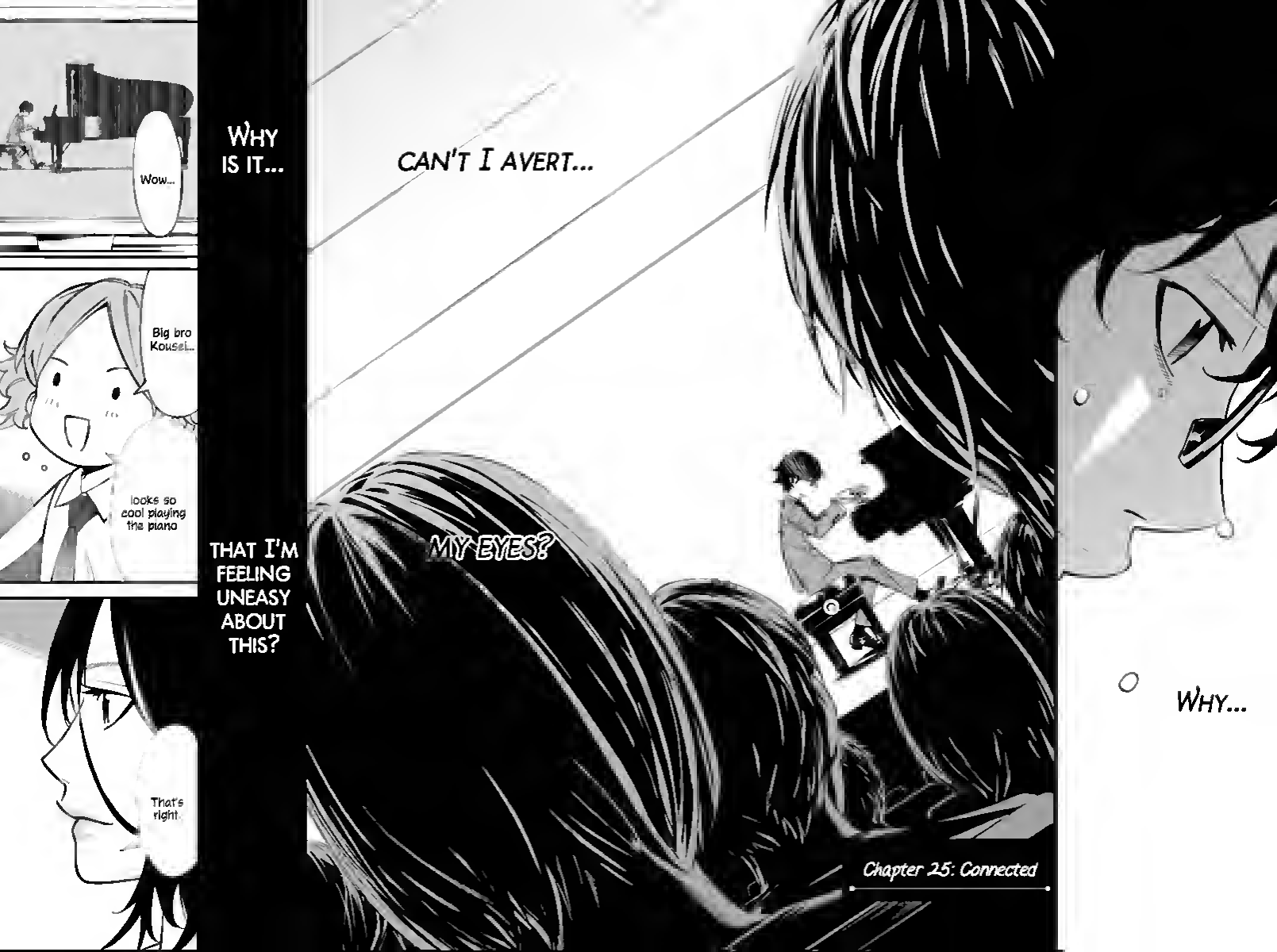
Uncontrolled force.
Changing the performance style halfway through.
Utter nonsense.
There's no way you can overlook this.
Performers...
must play to personify the composer's intentions
That's what my teacher always said
Nonetheless...
Why...
This performance is just a publicity stunt
In this world, there is only accuracy and fidelity. These reign supreme.


Wow...
Big bro Kousei...
looks so cool playing the piano
That's right.
WHY IS IT...
THAT I'M FEELING UNEASY ABOUT THIS?
CAN'T I AVERT...
MY EYES?
WHY...
Chapter 25: Connected

He really does.
You're going overboard, Saki
You call yourself his mother?!
He's spitting out blood!!!
KOUSEI IS TRYING SO HARD...
BECAUSE HE WANTS YOU TO BE HAPPY!!!

SAKI !!!
I KNOW THAT ALREADY !!!
I'm...
running out of time.

Saki,
watch carefully
Our kid...
has come to bid his final farewell
He's practically naked
WAS ARIMA KOUSEI
THE KIND OF PERFORMER TO LAY IT OUT LIKE THIS?

EVERY OUNCE OF ME IS GOING INTO THE SOUND,
SWIRLING ON A JOURNEY.
THIS IMAGE.
FRAGMENTS OF THE PAST.
A SCENERY WITH SOMEONE.
IT WILL BE FINE.
IF YOU JUST EARNESTLY PLAY WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT.

FOR WHOM DID YOU PLAY?
THIS SONG REMINDS ME OF MOTHER.
AAH.
AS I THOUGHT.
IS THIS REACHING YOU?
I HOPE IT REACHES YOU.

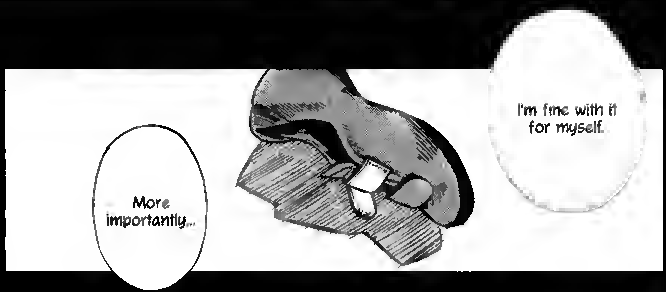
How disrespectful.
You're leaving us audience members here out of the loop
THIS PERFORMANCE DOESN'T TAKE PLACE HERE.
IT'S A PERFORMANCE FOR SOMEBODY.
PRIVATE PERFORMANCE.
IT'S A CRUEL AND SELFISH...
HOWEVER...
IT LETS US...
THINK OF A SPECIAL SOMEBODY.

Squish
HYA!
DON'T LET THEM CALL YOU A PUPPET.
WALK FORWARD ON YOUR OWN FEET.
THAT'S RIGHT, KOUSEI.
FLY FROM THAT ROOM.
Go forth!

Hm?
MOM, MY HAND HURTS!!!
IT HURTS, IT HURTS!!!
I'll let you hold on if you don't make it hurt again.
EVEN SO, IT'S RELIEVING,
LETTING YOUR CHILD GO
BUT IT'S LONELY.
Sorry, sorry I was a bit zoned out
C'mon
THAT WE ARE STILL CONNECTED.
AS LONG AS YOU BELIEVE...

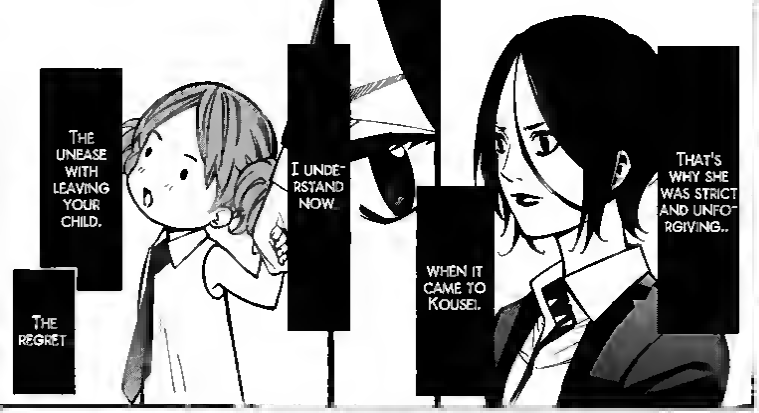
Is it okay for me to play piano?
DOESN'T MOTHER JUST hate me?
as a parent who hates their child?
Is there such a thing.

FROM THE DEPTHS OF HER HEART.
YOU WERE LOVED...


More importantly...
I'm fine with it for myself.

If I'm not there,
how will Kousei fare?
Can that kid have a proper lifestyle?
If his mom isn't there, can he live?
Can he earn a meal off of just his music?

For now, all I can do...
Playing accurately and being faithful to the sheet music.
is imprint it through repeated practice.
Repeatedly, repeatedly.
Over and over
Wow.
It just got complicated
TSK.
He's playing all painfully.
If he has these skills,
in the future, he'll be able to earn his meals


THE UNEASE WITH LEAVING YOUR CHILD.
THE REGRET
I UNDE-RSTAND NOW.
WHEN IT CAME TO KOUSEI.
THAT'S WHY SHE WAS STRICT AND UNFO-RGIVING..

You were desperate,

Saki.

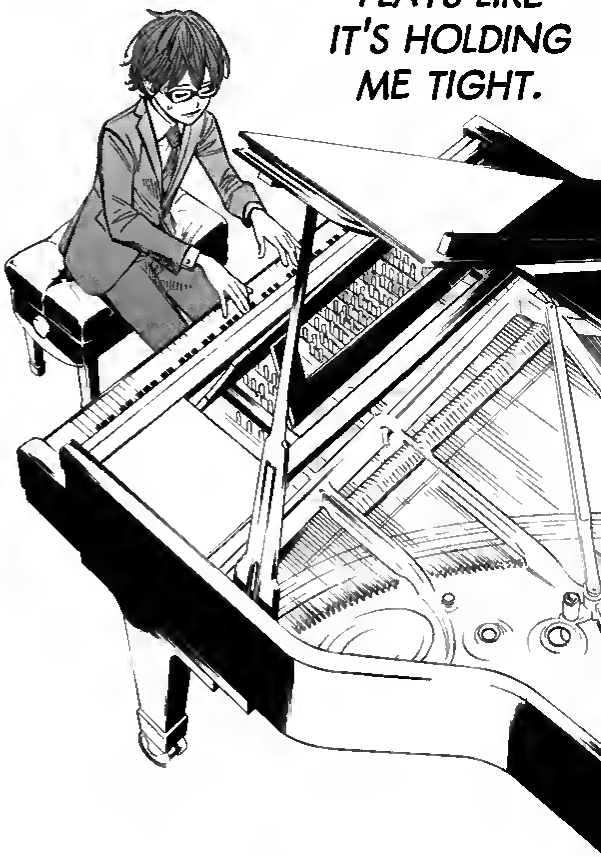
Will my treasure...
Will he only eat the food he likes? Will he eat his vegetables?
He's an introvert so will he be able to make friends in middle school?
He's bad at sports, so will he be able to avoid injuries?
Will he brush his teeth every morning?
Will he get a cold from sleeping in the open?
be able to find happiness?
I wanted to...
be by his side more.

I KNEW IT ALL ALONG...

It's strange.
...look, you played a chord!
If you play LA with another finger...
When did you get so heavy?
Is it because it's this song?
Well,
one more time.
Like caressing a child's head
It feels so... familiar.

THAT'S RIGHT!
THE PIANO...
MOTHER IS...
INSIDE OF ME.

HOW DID YOU RAISE THIS KID?
Hiroko,
WHY?
MY CHEST IS THROBBING...
IT'S LIKE IT'S CRUMBLING...
Thwp
Thwp


PLAYS LIKE IT'S HOLDING ME TIGHT.

That's Kousei for you
Yeah
the best performance
I'm going to present to Mom...
That I was always in Mother's thoughts.
I knew it well.

THE INNO-CENT KOUSEI.
WHOM I ADMIRED, IS NOT HERE.
HE'S HERE!
I finally...
have something to chase again!

Scary?!
Aah.
Oh, no.
I want to be more immersed.
Please don't let this end.
To let them listen to more.
I want to be here forever

IT'S LIKE THE MUSIC IS INTERMITTENTLY CONNECTING ME TO EVERYONE
TO ME...
WE ARE SHARING IT.
TO ME...

LET'S GO.
WITH PEOPLE ALL AROUND THE WORLD.
I AM CONNECTING TO PEOPLE...
WITH SOMEONE THAT I DON'T KNOW.
WITH SOMEONE THAT I KNOW.
THROUGH MUSIC.

Kousei can be happy
I wonder if...
Idiot.
Can't you tell from this?

DO
MI
LA
SO
RE
DO
LA

This is DO
RE
MI

He'll be popular.
ONE DAY, WHEN YOU'VE GROWN UP AND LEFT THE NEST,
I WONDER IF YOU'LL FORGET ABOUT ME.

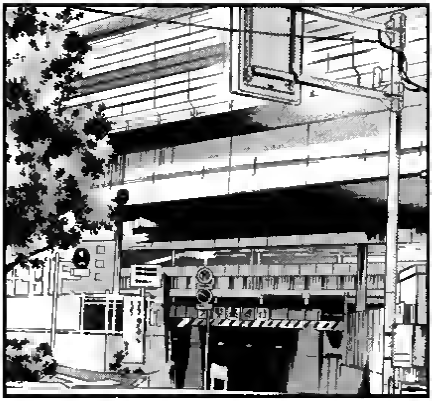
Hurry up and become an adult.
Don't worry about the stupid stuff.
Hah.
Hah.
Hah.
It's too late to return to the nest now.
Go to the outside world.
Go to a bigger world, and fly.

T/N: Liebesfreud and Liebesleid are both pieces by Kreisler. Liebesfreud translates to "the happiness of love." Liebesleid translates to "the sadness of love."

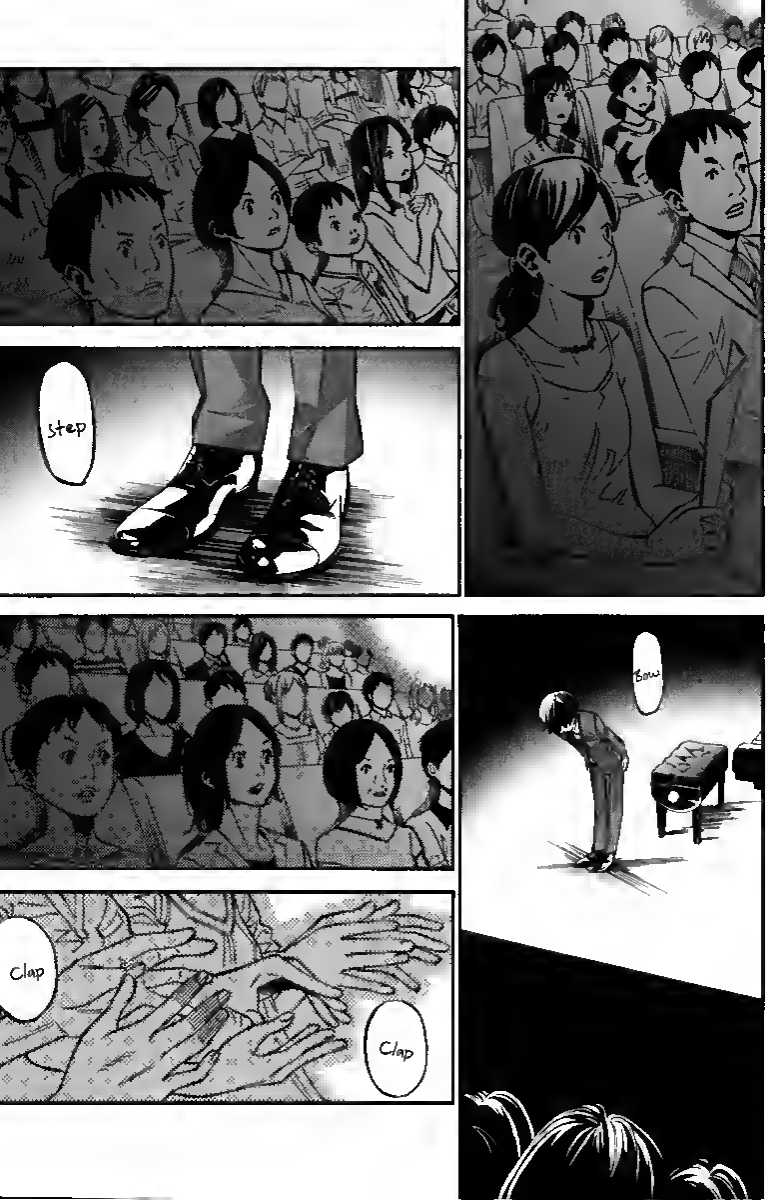
It's to..
familiarize myself with sadness

I NO LONGER ...
SEE MY MOTHER'S SHADOW
Kousei
Kousei
Aaah
It's over
WE ARE CONNECTED.
JUST LIKE WITH THESE PEOPLE,
I AM ALSO CONNECTED WITH MOTHER.
BECAU -SE I BELIEVE THIS,
I CAN MOVE FO- RWARD.
THAT'S WHY.
THAT IS WHY...

THIS IS GOODBYE...



ンション
林様の
ハウスオート


Step
Bow
Clap
Clap

Clap
Clap
Clap
Clap

Step

GOODBYE...

四月は君の嘘

I met the girl under full-bloomed cherry blossoms, and my fate has begun to change

step
step
step
step
step
step
step
step
step

step
step
step

Click
step
step

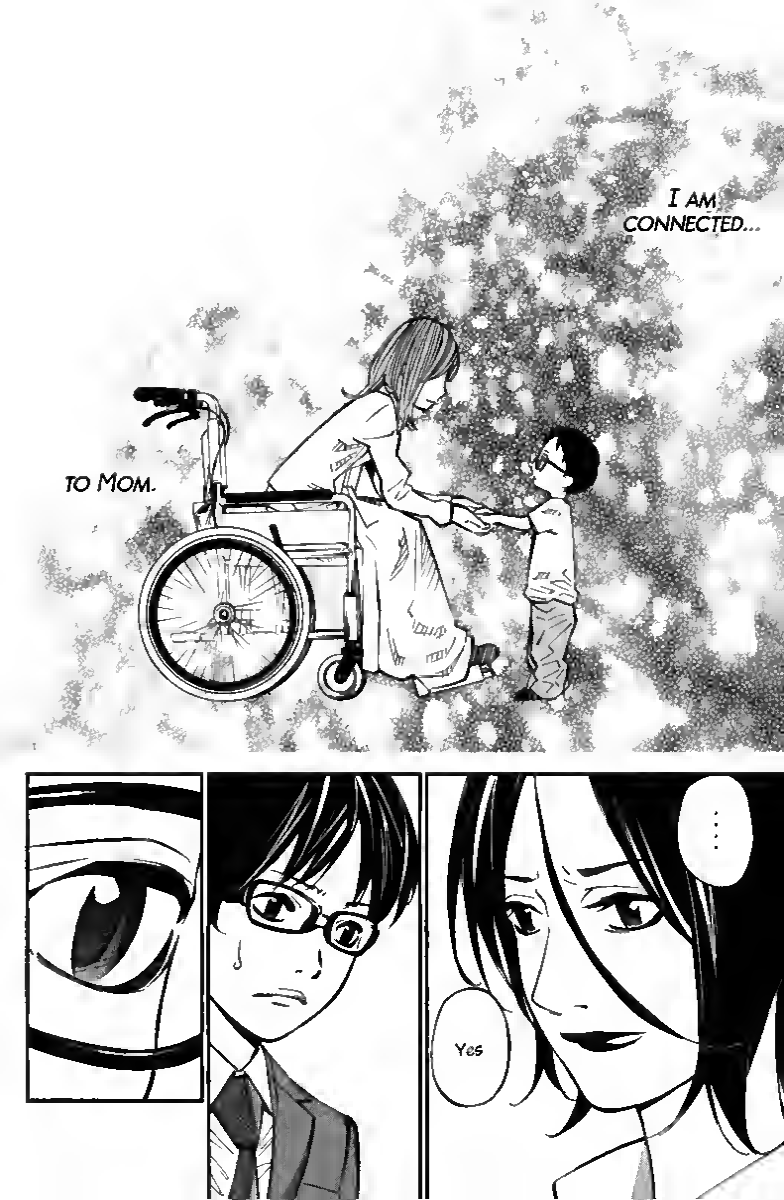
Thunk
Thunk
Thunk
"Thunk
MR. ARIMA!!!
THERE'S A SOFA OVER THERE.
ARE YOU OKAY, MR. ARIMA?!

Haha..
I'm fine.
It's nothing.
Just a bit exhausted
My legs are giving out.
Haha...
KOUSEI !!!
!
Ms. Hiroko.

まゆ〜
ひしっ
Cough
GYAA!
♪
If my husband knew his daughter was hugging a man like this,
he would be in tears.
GAH!

Were you able to meet Saki?
Mother was..
always by my side
Yep

In the manner that I step on the pedal...
In the pacing of my fingers..
In the way I touch the piano..
IN THE WAY I USE MY TOOTH" BRUSH...
IN THE ORDER THAT I EAT MY FOOD...
IN MY TASTES ...
WE ARE ..
Mother is there
In every small action I take,

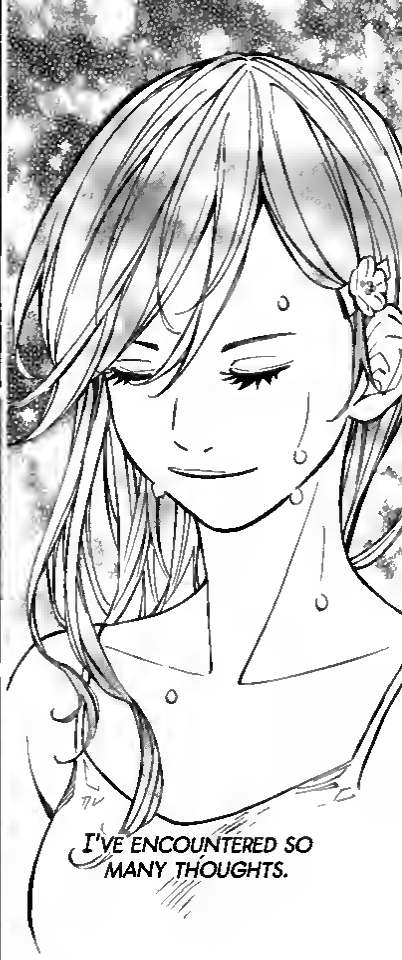

I AM CONNECTED...
TO MOM.
...
Yes

I'LL PLAY LIKE A WARM EMBRACE.
WILL HE FORGET ME, I WONDER.
Squeeze
I wonder
Ms. Hiroko.
if I was able to reach Mom.
IT'S TO...
FAMILIARIZE MYSELF WITH SADNESS.

Sniff
Sniff
The piano I played with all my heart...
Was it able to reach her?

Stupid.
You guys are connected aren't you?
Of course it reached her
BECAUSE OF MUSIC
I'VE ENCOUNTERED SO MANY MOMENTS.
I'VE ENCOUNTERED SO MANY EMOTIONS.
I'VE ENCOUNTERED SO MANY PEOPLE

BECAUSE YOU TAUGHT ME HOW TO PLAY PIANO.
THESE WERE ALL...
THE THOUGHTS THAT MOTHER LEFT WITH ME
MOM.


I'VE ENCOUNTERED SO MANY THOUGHTS.

GOODBYE.
THANK YOU.
THANK YOU.
I AM SO FORTUNATE.

SAKI...
THANK GOODNESS IT WORKED OUT.
しーん
Just keep going...
Not good...
Let's collect ourselves and move on.
Well, that was a surprise.
Umm...
...

It's finally time for the first place winner of the middle school division,
Mr. Miike Toshiya!
うぅぅぅぅ
WHAT DO I DO?!
THEY'RE NOT REACTING AT ALL!!!
like a funeral here!!!
This is troublesome.
They should have had an intermission.
They're having Miike play after all that?!
I DON'T THINK THEY'RE PREPARED TO LISTEN TO THE NEXT PERFORMANCE
THE AFTERTASTE STILL LINGERS.
STILL FEELING THE EFFECTS OF ARIMA'S PERFORMANCE
THE AUDIENCE...

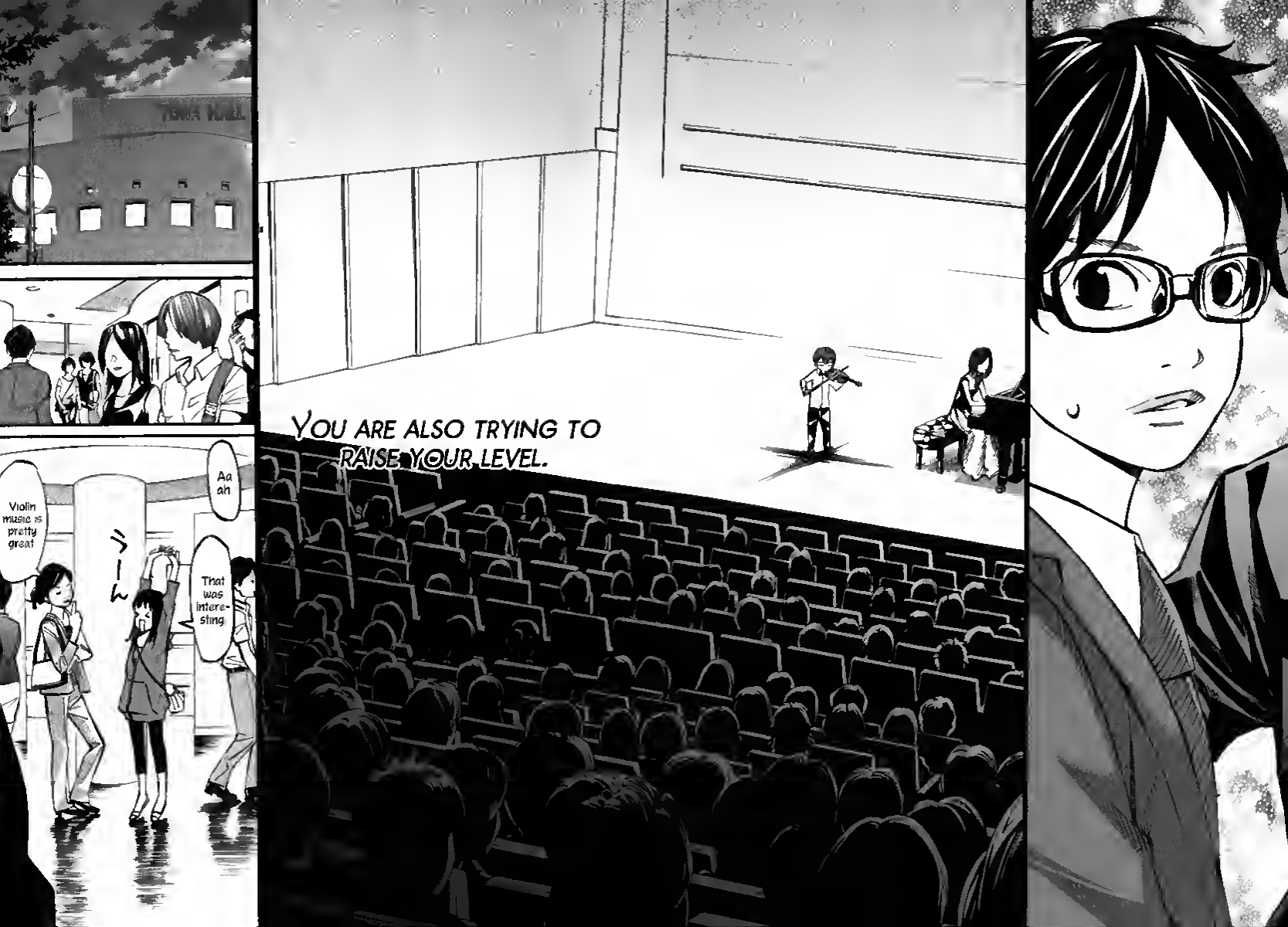
Click
I definitely wouldn't want to play
For a performer, this is the worst possible situation!!!
Oh, is it the next performance?
It should be about time to go home.
IF I DON'T STAY FOCUSED,
I START TO FEEL LIKE I'M SINKING.
IT'S MY FIRST TIME...
STANDING ON STAGE...
AND BEING SCARED LIKE THIS.

ON THE SAME STAGE...
That last one was wonderful...
Clap
Clap
I WANT TO GO HOME
I'm not sure if I'm ready for more music.
Clap
CAN I EVEN COMPARE?
I WANT TO RUN AWAY.

It's tough.
Miike.
EVER FACED ANYTHING...
WITH THAT MUCH SINCERITY?
PUSHED MYSELF THAT FAR BEFORE.
HAVE I EVER...
Thump
Thump

I WANT TO TRY CATCHING FIRE LIKE THAT.
I WANT TO TRY....
DEVOTING MY HEART AND SOUL, LIKE HE DID.
MY HEART IS BECKONING -- "ADVANCE!"
WATCH ME.

softer?
Compared to usual, his music is...
I SEE.
WANT TO HEAR MOM'S VOICE RIGHT NOW.
I DESPERATELY...
YOU'VE ALSO BEEN AFFECTED.
Hm?
Huh?


YOU ARE ALSO TRYING TO RAISE YOUR LEVEL.
Violin music is pretty great
Aa ah
ラーム
That was interesting

I'm..
Teacher.
Hm?
glad that I learned to play music.
Nwahahaha
I'll take down all the strong enemies.
This will be fun.
She's actually a sadist!?
AND THE GO-
RGEOUS LADY.
Oh! Kousei!
LV.69

Oi!
Kou-
se-
Huh?

Thump

I CAN'T SEEM TO SAY ANYTHING.
THAT'S STRA NGE.
HUH?
HUH?
I CAN'T SEEM TO TELL KOUSEI ..
THAT HE PLAYED VERY WELL.

Moreover,
Isn't it? I was only the tagalong for the tagalong
Is that okay?
I'm pretty tired after all that's happened
Well, shall we go back?
He's angry?
He's angry.
THAT TAGALONG WHO RAN AWAY.
WE REALLY MUST LECTURE
Umm...
You seemed really manly there.
!?
Tsubaki,
after all my hard work, not a single comment?

What're you saying?
Well, I guess I asked for it.
It's just coz you're wearing a suit.
HUH? HUH? WEIRD.
HUH?
I'M GOING TO CRY.
I CAN'T SEEM TO HELP IT...

WHAT ARE THESE TEARS FOR?

SPEAKING TO KOUSEI AS USUAL?

Cafe March
Where's Arima?
He went to school today
Seems like he wants to lecture a certain violinist who cancelled last minute
That kid is pretty scary
when he was called the human metronome.
He's not one bit like...
Ohoh, how frightening.

It left something behind in the people who heard it.
His music spread like a virus.
He's become an interesting musician.
When he ended the performance and came back, he gained some depth as a person
He brought something back from that stage.
His face has changed.
He took everything that has happened as sustenance...
To fuel his maturity.
It's exhilarating.

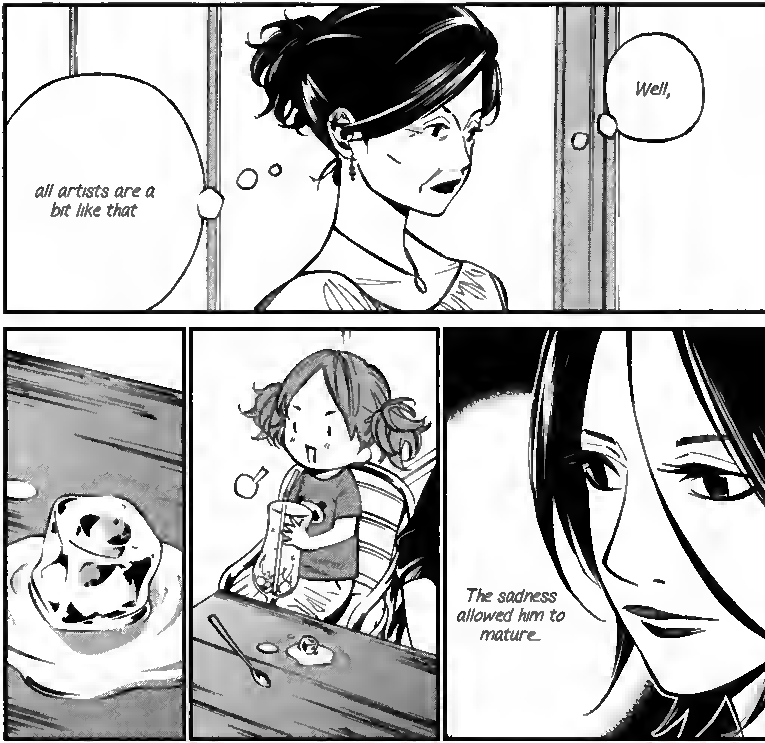
He's undeniably..
a musician like us.
MUSIC ROOM

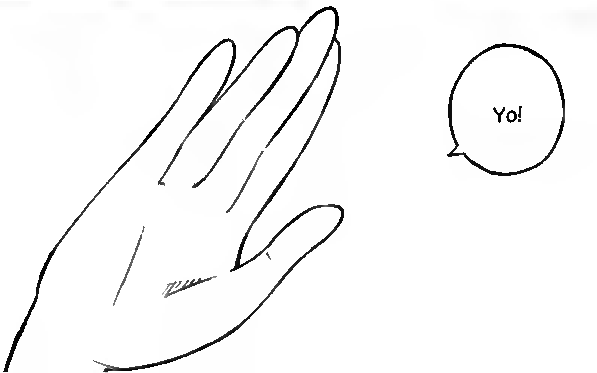
I thought I'd be able to run into her...
If I dropped by the music room...
That'd be silly.
Going to her home just to rage.
I've got no way of contacting her
I don't have her phone number
Or her e-mail address.
No calls...
Should I pay her home a visit?
Would that be out of place?

I REALLY DON'T...
KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT YOU.
GAH!
KOUSEI !!!

ちゅー
Losing Arima Saki,
was a great tragedy.
to both Kousei and to me,
WHEN IT COMES TO ARIMA'S PERFORMANCES,
But to Arima Kousei, as an artist,
IT ATTACHES A SORT OF SORROW TO THEM.
it was necessary.

TO HIM, THE DEATH...
OF HIS BELOVED MOTHER WAS A GIFT.
THAT SADNESS SPURRED HIS MATURITY.
A DEMON'S PATH.
THAT IS...!


Well,
all artists are a bit like that
The sadness allowed him to mature...


Yo!

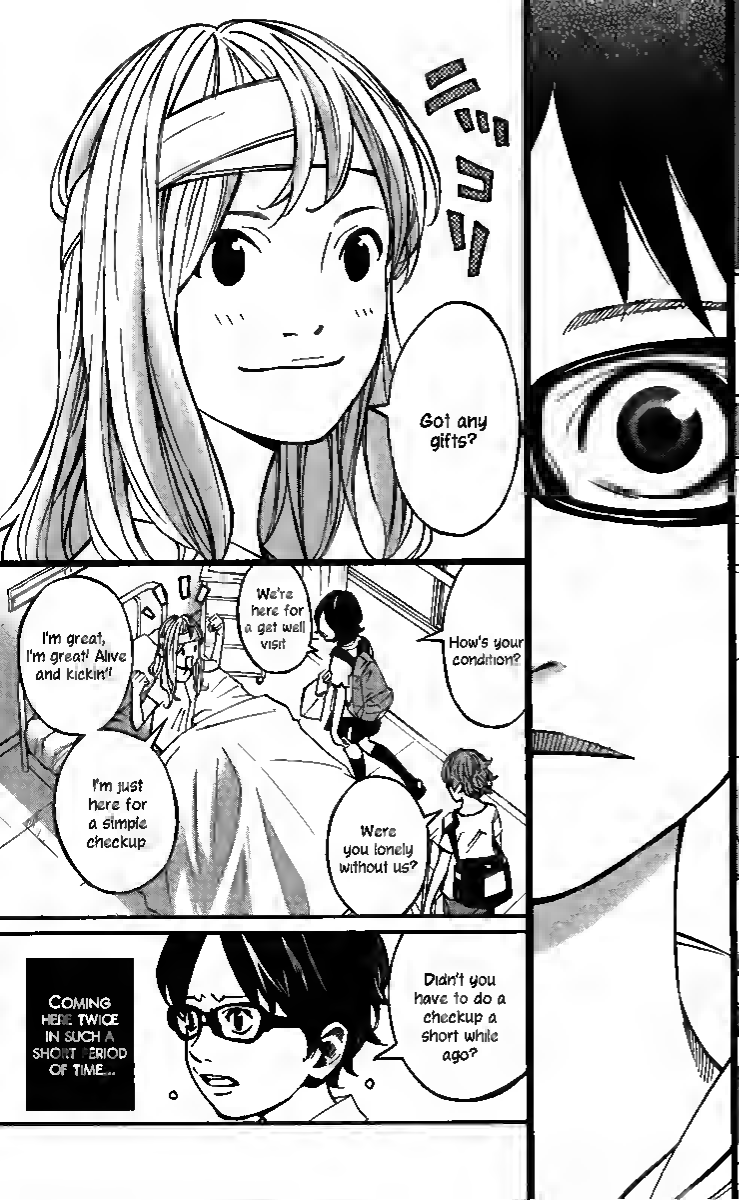
How'd it go yesterday?

Sorry I couldn't go.
IT'D PROBABLY BE FROM FURTHER LOSS.
I wasn't even sure they'd let me just drop out like that
I was thinking I'd contact you guys,
but it turned out to be impossible.
SIGN: COLLEGE HOSPITAL
大学付属病院
IF KOUSEI WERE TO ADVANCE FURTHER...
Cham / END

Kousei, we should go soon.
Yeah.
Hey, did you buy anything?
Super friendship cake.
Girls love this kind of stuff.
Her family owns a cake shop
You're getting fat
Poke
THAT'S RIGHT!!! YOU'RE THE WORST, JUST GIVE TO ME.
IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS!
...

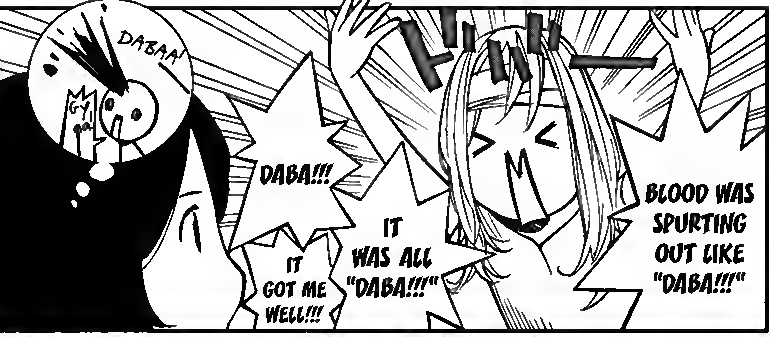
Chapter 27: Overlapping Silhouettes

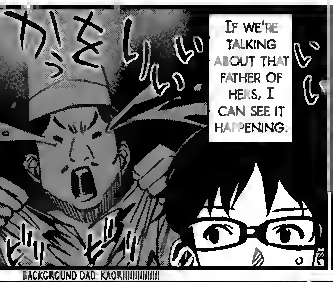
WE'RE HERE!
Welcome

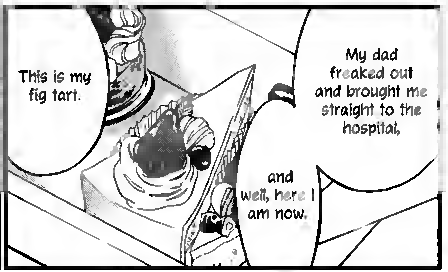

Got any gifts?
How's your condition?
We're here for a get well visit
I'm great, I'm great! Alive and kickin'!
I'm just here for a simple checkup
Were you lonely without us?
Didn't you have to do a checkup a short while ago?
COMING HERE TWICE IN SUCH A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME...

Welcome

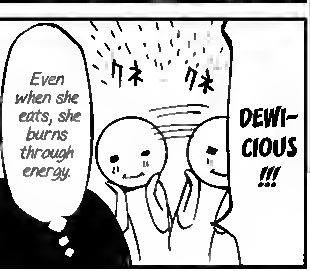
BUT...
Just a quick look at my head.
Last time was just a short examination
They did things like a brain scan
This time, it's for some rest, and for stuff that takes a bit more time
I'M A PATIENT !!!
!!
YOU JUST OGLED ME WITH YOUR DISGUSTING EYES, DIDN'T YOU?!
YOU'RE JUST PERVING OUT WHENEVER YOU WANT!!!
IT'S BECAUSE I'M A PATIENT?!
I AM NOT...
I AM NOT PERVING OUT!!!
I'M PE-RVING OUT!
We thought you just didn't come to the gala concert, but it turns out you were in the hospital
But it was really surprising
I'm the one who was surprised here
After I fell and hit my head...

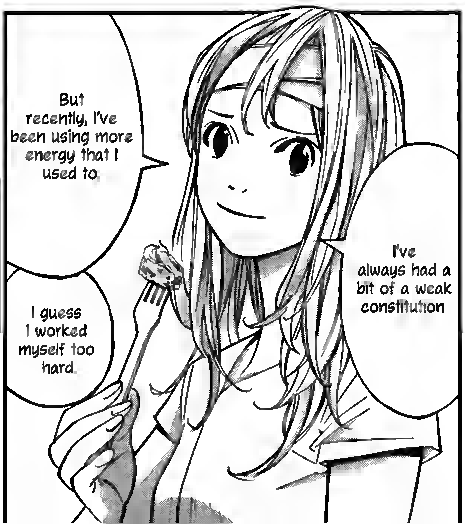


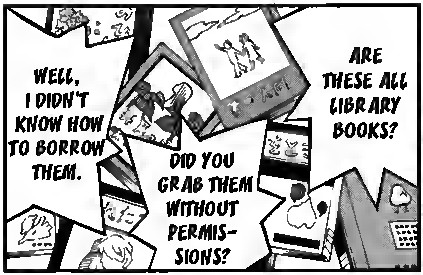




BACKGROUND DAD: KAORI!!!!!!!!!!

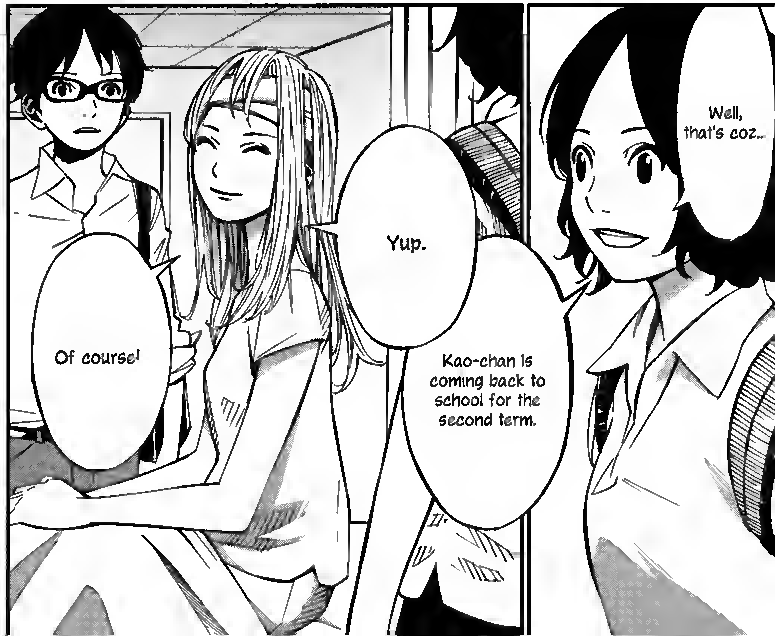



But recently, I've been using more energy that I used to.
I've always had a bit of a weak constitution
I guess I worked myself too hard.

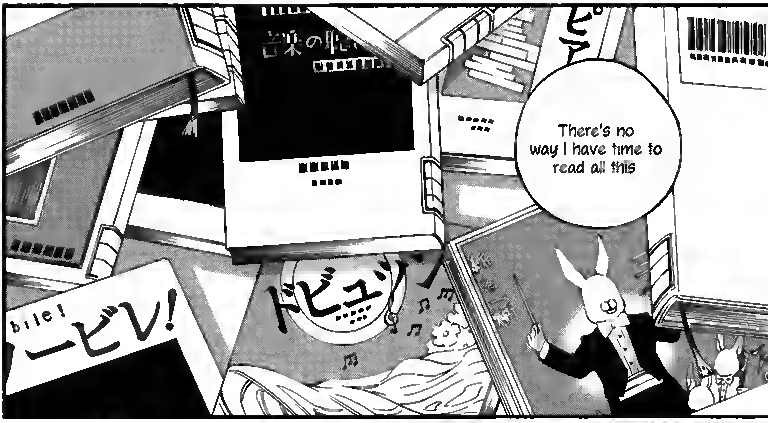

ARE THESE ALL LIBRARY BOOKS?
DID YOU GRAB THEM WITHOUT PERMISSIONS?
WELL, I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO BORROW THEM.

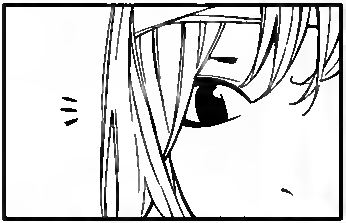
I BROUGHT BOOKS!!!
INCLUDING MUSIC RELATED ONES!
YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF FREE TIME IN THE HOSPITAL, RIGHT?
!?

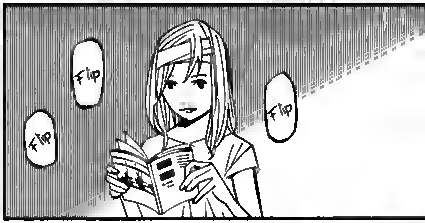
It's pointless for you to bring so many.
Why's that?

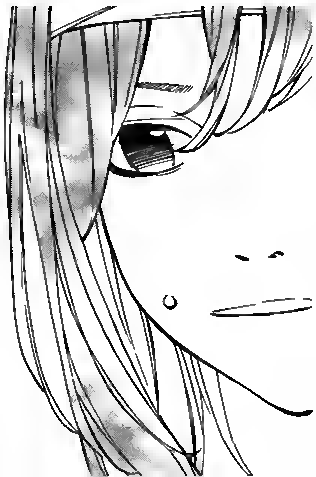

Well, that's coz...
Yup.
Kao-chan is coming back to school for the second term.
Of course!

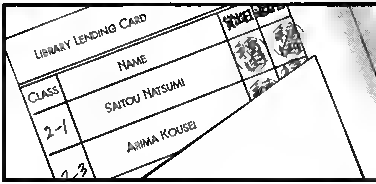
IT LOOKED LIKE...
SHE WAS PREPARING IT IN ADVANCE.
THAT RESPONSE JUST NOW...
WAS THAT MY IMAGINATION?
Bye-bye!
See you in your dreams.
We'll be back again.
Click


There's no way I have time to read all this
ドビュッ
ービレ!




Flip
Flip
Flip

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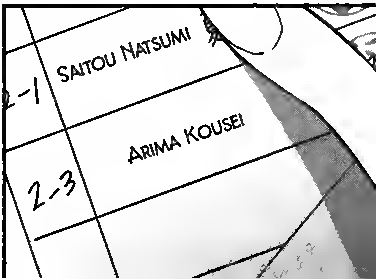
Name
Class
Saitou Natsumi
2-1
Arima Kousei
1-3

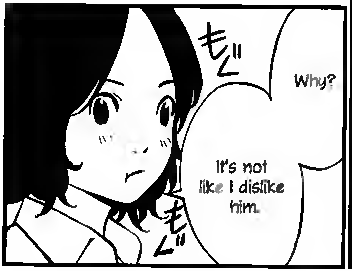

2-1
Saitou Natsumi
Arima Kousei
2-3

NO 17493
Library Lending Card
Class
Name
2-1
Saitou Natsumi
2-3
Arima Kousei
Miss Kaori?
Yes?
Did your friends go back?
Yep!
Then,
Is it okay?
Yep.

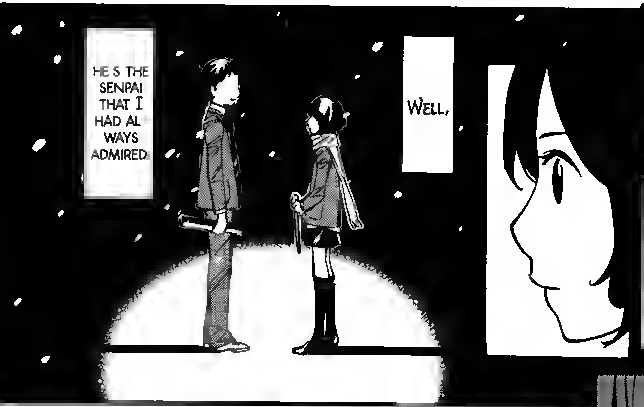
Please put me back on IV.

Boing!

Oh!
What are you "Oh"ing for?
Got a message from senpai.
He's asking me out to the festival tonight.
By senpai, you mean Saitou-senpai?
You're still with him?
WHY WOULDN'T I BE?!

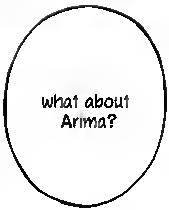

もじ
Why?
It's not like I dislike him.

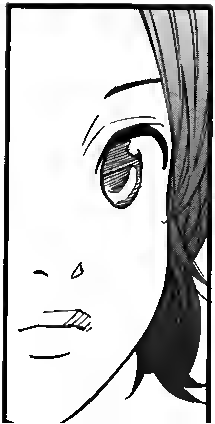
Why?


HE'S THE SENPAI THAT I HAD ALWAYS ADMIRED.
WELL,

Then, do you like him?

Then,

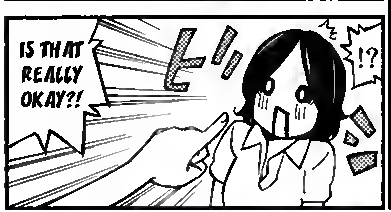

what about Arima?

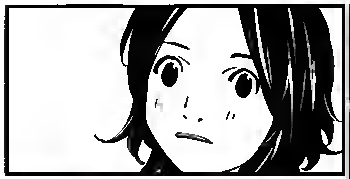


Tsubaki!
Tsubaki.
A-A-ARE YOU JUST BEING SILLY?
WHY ARE YOU BRINGING UP KOUSEI'S NAME AT A TIME LIKE THIS?
AH AHA!
Wh-
I DON'T SEE HIM AS A GUY...
I CAN TALK TO HIM ABOUT ANY-THING.
I KNOW EVERY-THING ABOUT HIM.
THE ONE WHO'S BEEN WITH ME SINCE WE WERE KIDS.
Kousei is...

Here it is
As templated
Heard this already
Tsubaki's "brother" phrase.
Nonsense

He feels more like a little brother.


IS THAT REALLY OKAY?!
!?

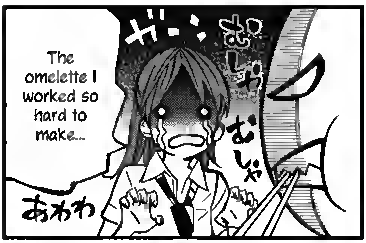


Tsubaki,
you're an only child
You have no little brother

YOU AREN'T REALIZING ...
YOUR TRUE FEELINGS.

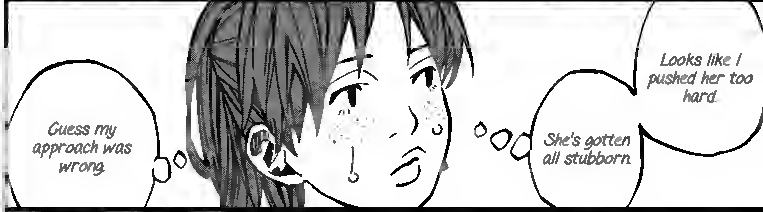
Chanting "little brother, little brother" like an incantation
You're casting a spell on yourself.

Saying "little brother" like that isn't real magic
You're scared
YOU DON'T WANT TO LEAVE...
THE COMFORT OF YOUR CURRENT RELATIONSHIP.

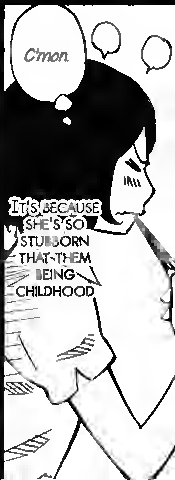

The omelette I worked so hard to make...

HAH !!!

I'm telling you, it's nothing like that


Guess my approach was wrong.
Looks like I pushed her too hard.
She's gotten all stubborn.

ARIMA WAS ABLE TO STEP FORWARD DESPITE BEING SCARED
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?


C'mon.
It's because she's so stubborn that-them being childhood

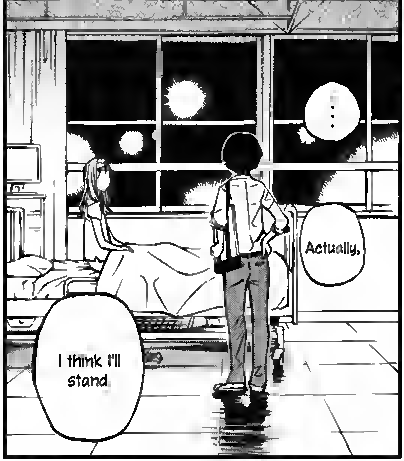
HISS
WHAT IS IT?!
THOSE RELATIONS...
HAVE ALREADY BEEN SMASHED APART...
BY THE ARRIVAL OF MIYAZONO KAORI.
One day, it'll be too late to fix this situation...

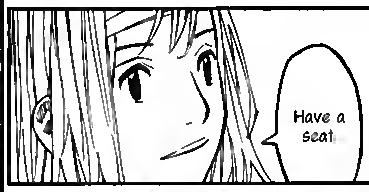
Click
Click
Saitou-senpai.
Sawabe.

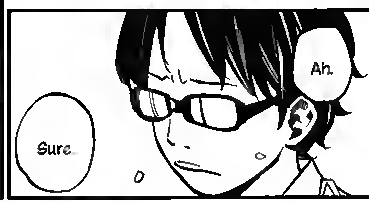
Senpai, you're all burnt up
Ooh, a yukata!
It suits you
It's super cute
Ahaha.
It's okay, you don't have to say that.
Anyone can look good in the right clothes.
SEE, LOOK AT THIS, KASHIWAGI.
Let's go
I gotta get some takoyaki
KOUSEI WOULDN'T SAY THESE THINGS TO ME.
THAT'S BECAUSE...
HE THINKS OF ME AS NOTHING MORE THAN A NAGGING OLDER SISTER.
SURELY
AFTER ALL...

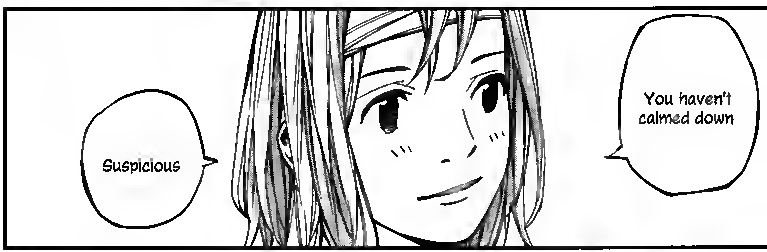
Knock
Knock
Come in.
Miyazono Kaori
Yes?
Good evening.

GYA AA!
KYA AA!
I thought it was a pervert...
Couldn't help it
You had devious eyes
Oh, it's you.
Thud
HOW COULD YOU DO THAT?!
THAT'S WHY I APOLOGIZED!
YOU DID NOT!
DID SO!
PLEASE BE QUIET IN THE HOSPITAL!


...
Actually,
I think I'll stand.


Have a seat.

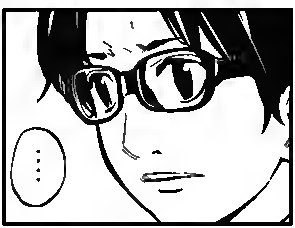

Ah.
Sure.


You haven't calmed down
Suspicious

And even so, you still came

It's because I'm bad with hospitals.

ARE YOU SICK?


...

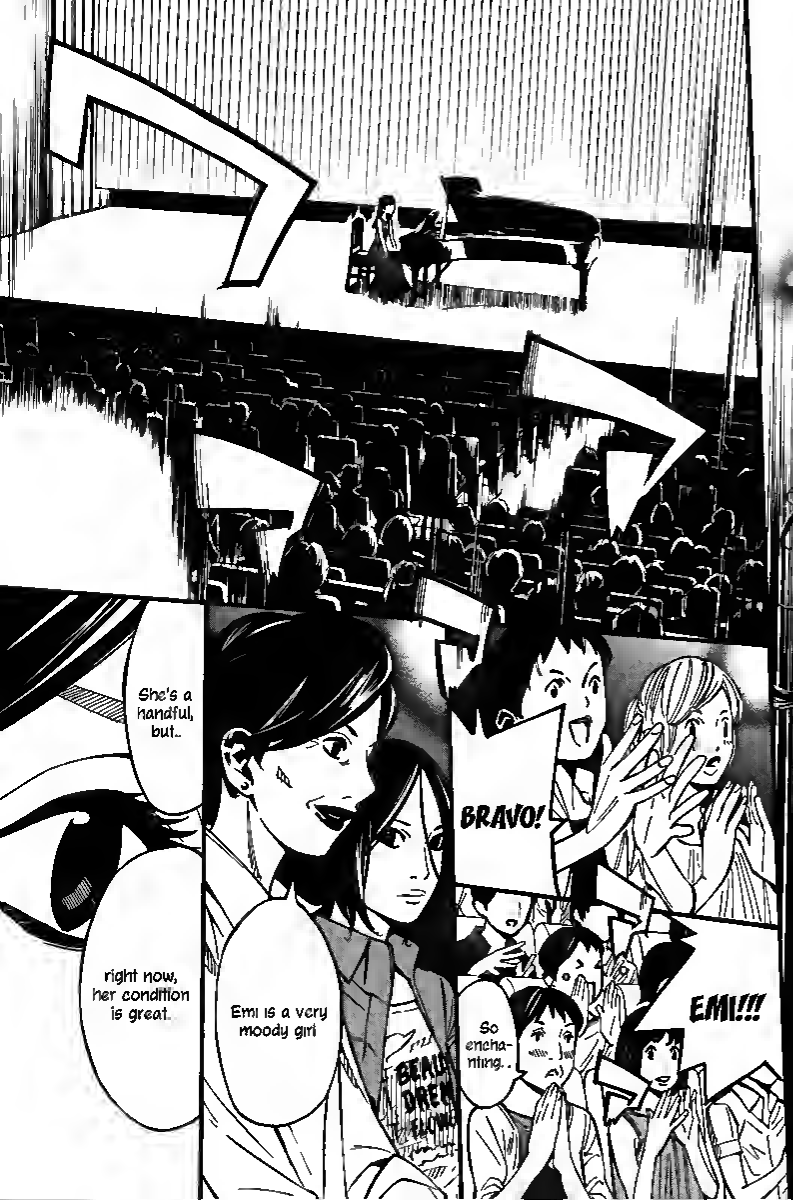
You're okay, right?
No good...
You're not lying about the examinations, right?
You're fine, right?
I've got a mountain of questions,
You are...
You won't say something like you aren't going to come to school anymore, right?
Will you continue calling me names?
Can we talk in the music room?
But my voice won't come out
You know,
Watari was here until just now.

I heard you played at the gala concert all alone?
WATARI
Whose fault do you think it was?
It hurts!
I can't stop laughing
Even though it was a violin gala concert
The accompanist becoming a soloist -- unheard of!
There's no way I could stand being there.
It makes no sense
Is he an idiot?
GY AA A!
His level of respect toward the crucial piano was like a child toward a toy
Bizarre and novel
Unprecedented
I cannot fathom..
why an accompanist on the piano would crash a violin gala concert
He found the blog of one of the attendees..
and printed it out for me.

However,
with regards to the performance itself,
that young man drifted out with the aura of a future maestro
His notes tied fleeting colors together
That melody became a spring breeze...
that blew through, leaving...
a touch of unease.
a touch of loneliness,
a touch of sadness in the audiences' hearts,
evoking a nostalgia
for days long past
He is an artist.

Tre-
mb-
le

TULIP
You've trained an interesting kid,
Mrs. Ochiai.
Go!
Go!!!
BEAUTY DREAM FLOWERS


She's a handful, but..
right now, her condition is great.
Emi is a very moody girl
BRAVO!
So enchanting..
EMI!!!

EMI!

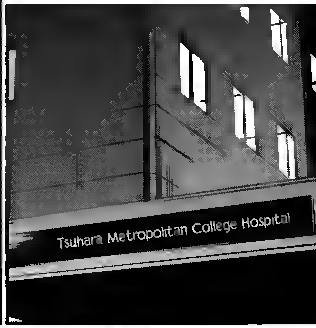
Please give Arima my thanks
Yet another...
spectacular artist has been born.
ARIMA.
WAIT FOR ME
YOU'RE NUMBER ONE!
IGAWA!
Emi has digested the pleasures of being a musician...
with her entire heart and soul.
Young talents..
collide...
and polish each other
until they shine.

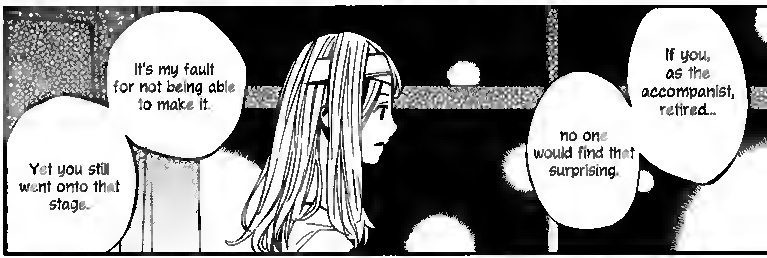
Her exit is also beautiful.
It's got a particular atmosphere to it
Is that so?
THE PIANO IS HER CANVAS.
I WILL DEFINITELY...
CATCH UP TO YOU.
NOT A SINGLE DOUBT IN HER HEART
HER MUSIC ...
TARGETS THE FRONT OF THE PACK, AND RAPIDLY RUSHES FORWARD.
THE ONE WHO I'M WORRIED ABOUT ...
NO.
IT'LL BE FINE
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAIT
GO AHEAD FIRST...
KEEP GOING AHEAD.
WITHOUT TURNING BACK
ADVANCE...

IS THE OTHER BOY PIANIST.
CANS
A WORN-OUT GLITTERING PIANO
Having Takeshi face Arima was a mistake.
CONCERTS ARE YESTERDAY'S BUSINESS.
ONLY A HANDFUL OF PEOPLE CAN BECOME PROS

Takeshi.
The world will not wait for you,
DRINK

2階病棟
Why?


Tsuhara Metropolitan College Hospital


If you, as the accompanist, retired...
no one would find that surprising.
It's my fault for not being able to make it.
Yet you still went onto that stage.

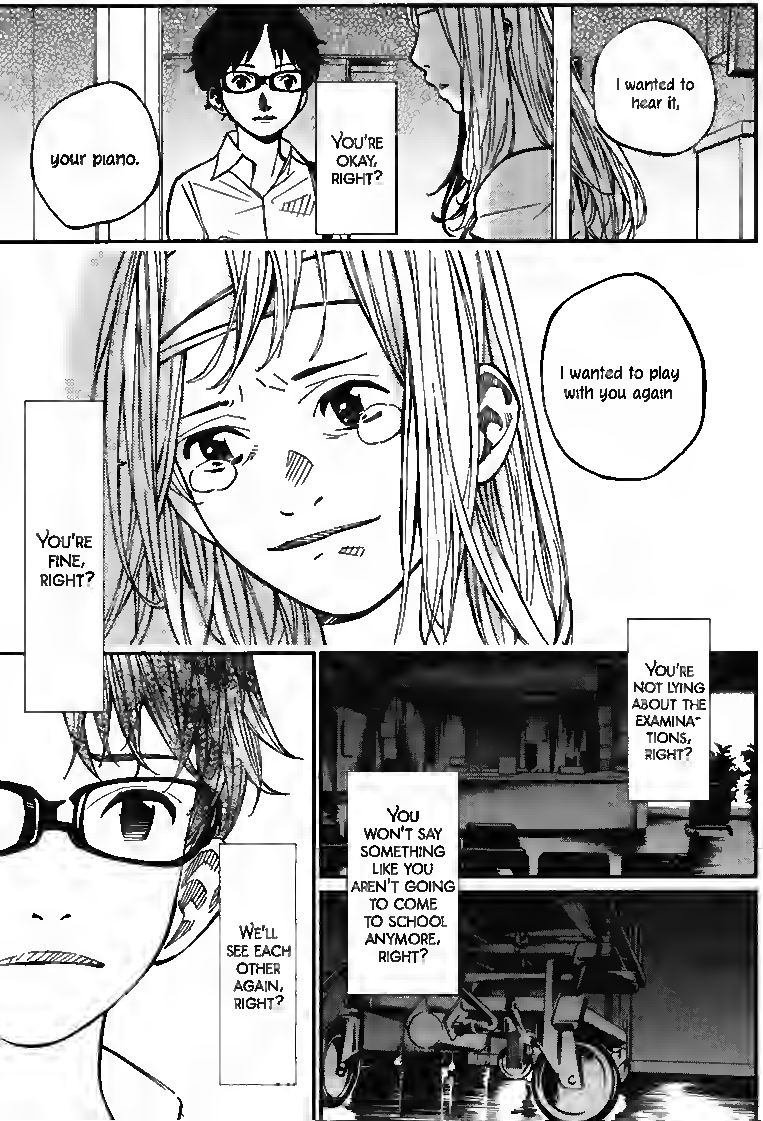
Her kind of music is nothing
At first,
it was because they were looking down on you.
Why?

But you know,
starting with the interruption,
THE SOUND DISAPPEARED
MOTHER'S WORDS,
HER ACTIONS,
HER SCENT.
THOUGHTS OF MOTHER APPEARED.
THOSE BECAME THE SOUND...
AND SOARED INTO THE SKY.

AAH... AS I THOUGHT.

WAS PICKED FOR MY SAKE.
THAT SONG SHE PICKED...
LIEBESLIED.
CONJURE MEMORIES OF MOTHER.
THAT SONG ...
THE SCENT OF FABRIC SOFTENER.
THE SOUND OF THE PIANO, WHILE HALF ASLEEP.
THE GENTLE LULLABY.

California Cows
THE SMELL OF ANTISE- PTIC.
THE DIRTY WHITE LINOLEUM FLOOR.
ECHO- ING FOOT- STEPS.
WITH YOU.
Welcome.
IT OVERLAPS.


your piano.
YOU'RE OKAY, RIGHT?
I wanted to hear it,
I wanted to play with you again
YOU'RE FINE, RIGHT?
YOU'RE NOT LYING ABOUT THE EXAMINATIONS, RIGHT?
YOU WON'T SAY SOMETHING LIKE YOU AREN'T GOING TO COME TO SCHOOL ANYMORE, RIGHT?
WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN, RIGHT?

You...

YOU AREN'T GOING TO DISAPPEAR ON ME,
LIKE MOTHER DID, RIGHT?

四月は君の嘘

Chapter 28: Footprints

四月は君の嘘

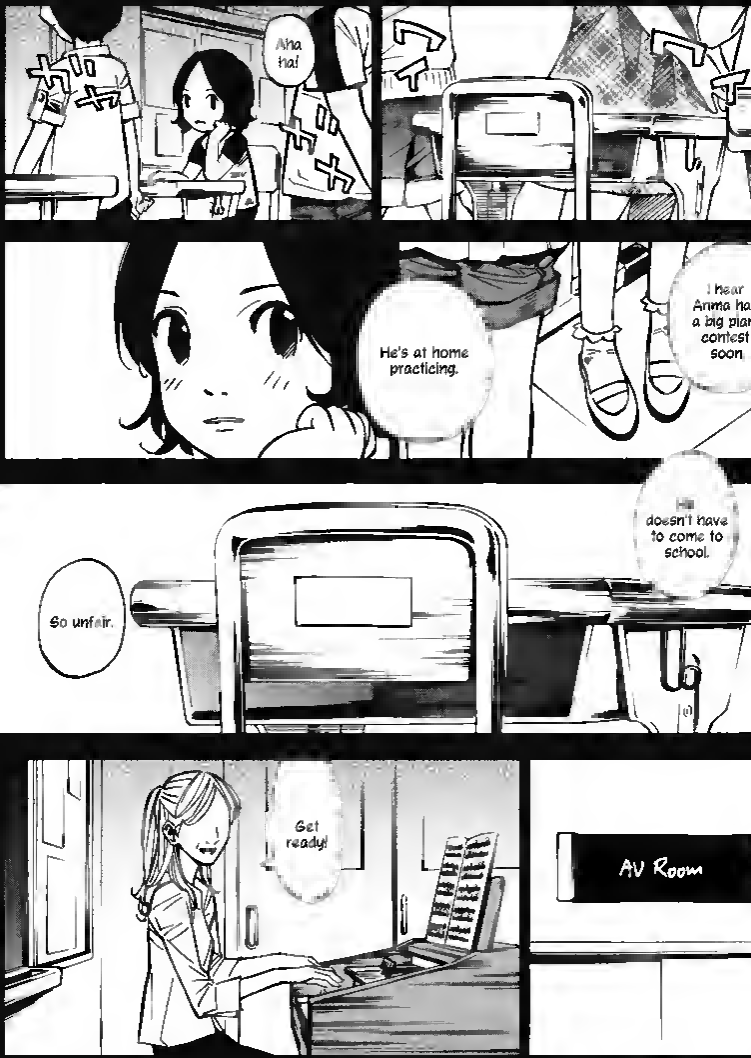
STARTING NOW,
WE'RE BEGINNING THE SPECIAL TRAINING FOR THE SUMIYA BASEBALL SPORTS GROUP!!!
I WANT TO PLAY A GAME!
I WANT TO GO IN THE SEA!
WHAAT?!
THE FOUNDATION FOR ATHLETES IS THE LEGS AND THE CORE..
IF YOUR LEGS AND CORE ARE WEAK, YOU'LL NEVER AMOUNT TO ANYTHING!!! WHETHER IT'S AS A BASEBALL PLAYER
OR AS A SOCCER PLAYER!!!
BEACH DASHES 10 SETS OF 10.
OOH?!
BRAIN BUSTER!
THIS IS ONLY TEN PERCENT OF MY POWER !!!

I'm not going to play basketball.
Why me?
Such small footprints
HUH?!
YOU JUST SAID "PROBABLY!"
STRONG LEGS AND CORE ARE IMPORTANT TO PIANISTS, TOO.
PROBABLY.
KYAAA!
WHAT? HOW DARE YOU SAY THAT TO A YOUNG LADY?!
NO!!!
YOUR FOOTPRINTS ARE JUST HUGE!

WAIT UP!!!
わあああ

I wanna go, but
I have piano lessons
Kousei!
Let's go to Ouji Park.
Goodbye!
Hmph.
It's pretty good, if I say so myself.
A masterpiece
I finally made a shiny rainbow dirt ball
I wanted to show it to him
This thing is gleaming
I know!
I'll make one for Kousei, too!

Kousei!
Let's play catch!
I figured out how to throw a sinker!
Kousei is going to become a pianist.
He's very busy.
What if he hurt his hands?
Sorry.
scrub scrub
scrub scrub
scrub scrub


Aha ha!
I hear Anma has a big piano contest soon.
He's at home practicing.
doesn't have to come to school.
So unfair.
Get ready!
AV Room

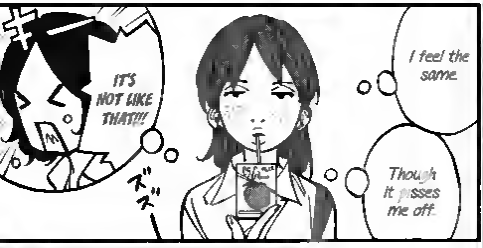
MUSIC
The swirly snail
The purple hydrangea
I hate...
this music stuff.

ARE YOU PRACTICING PROPERLY?!
YOU AREN'T SKIPPING OUT JUST COZ I'M NOT WATCHING, ARE YOU?!
I'D BE DOING IT EVEN IF YOU DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING!!!
I'VE BEEN PLAYING HANON AND CZERNY EVERY DAY!!!
BE QUIET IN THE HOSPITAL!!!
ACK!
SORRY!!!
THAT'S NOT ENOUGH!
都津原大学
PLAY YOUR CHOPIN, TOO!!!
THEN WHEN DO I SLEEP?
I'm not sure what's going on here,
but let's just drop it, okay?

I don't know any of this stuff.
Let's stop with this talk I don't understand.
ギャーギャー
PLAY YOUR LIST TOO!!!
YOU'RE STILL GOING ON ABOUT THIS?!

Something's bugging me.
Just leave it alone
I'm only consulting someone like you because I can't leave it alone.
I'm worried about Tsubaki
I'VE GOT NO INTEREST IN WOMEN WHO AREN'T CHARMED BY ME.
How pleasant

Tsubaki is a kid.
she gets all sulky and stubborn.
When people tell her "that's wrong",
So, of course it's complicated.


IT'S NOT LIKE THAT!!!
I feel the same.
Though it pisses me off.

Especially when it comes
to Kousei.

No matter how much it tears her up,
she has to realize it by herself.

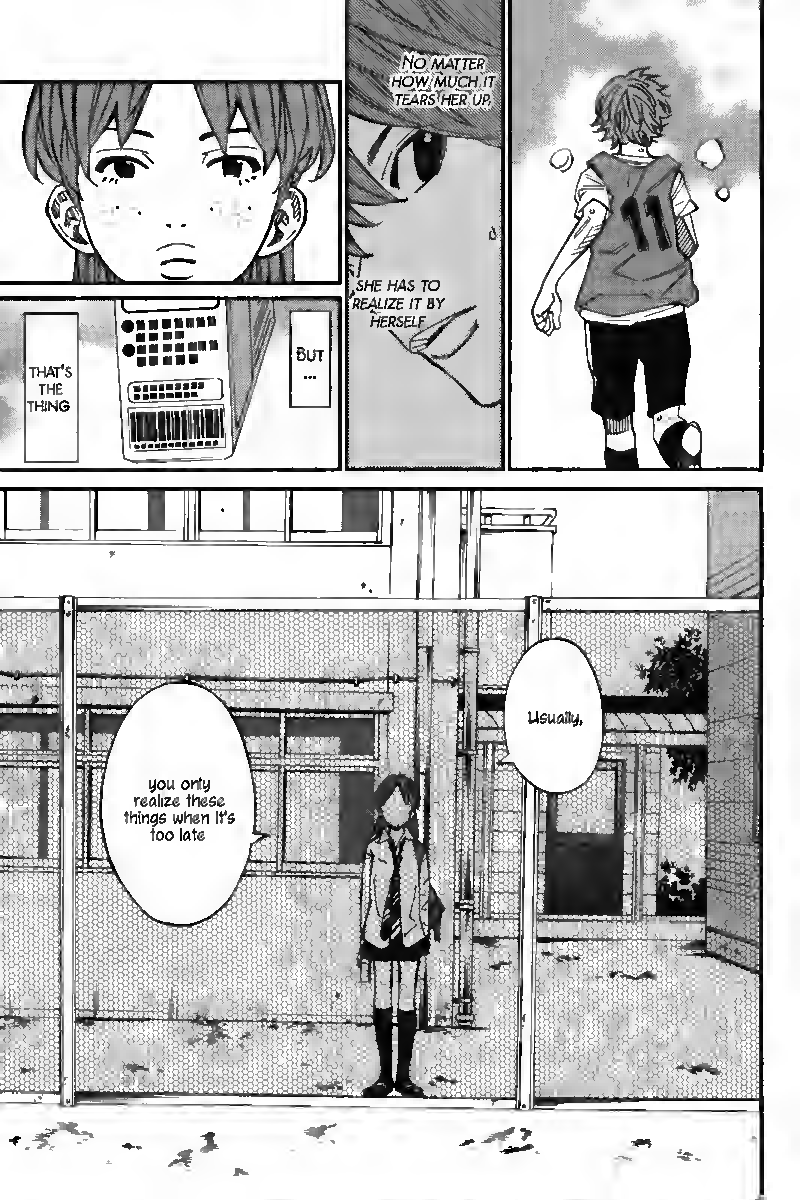
BUT I WANT ...
TSUBAKI TO SMILE.

Got it.
Watari-senpai, the scrimmage is starting.

Thanks for the juice.

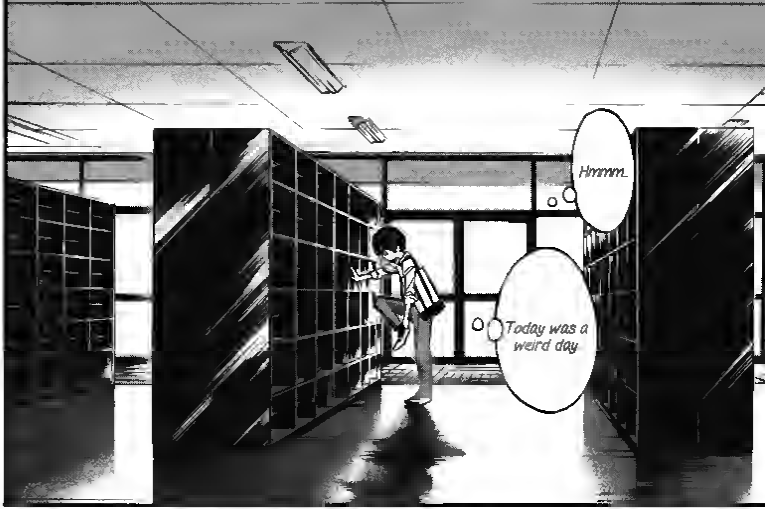
Thanks.

THE FACT THAT THE GUY BY HER SIDE...
ISN'T HER LITTLE BROTHER.


NO MATTER HOW MUCH IT TEARS HER UP,
SHE HAS TO REALIZE IT BY HERSELF
BUT ...
THAT'S THE THING
Usually,
you only realize these things when it's too late

Orange
WAH!
WAH!
?

WOOF !!!
WOOF !!!
WAH !!!
WAH !!!
WAH !!!
?
?
Looks are ordinary, exceedingly mediocre.
Ability to avoid danger third tier
WAH !!!


Hmmm.
Today was a weird day.

Oi, Arima
Think it's my unlucky day
Gotta stay vigilant

Your choice in schools.
Your path

Have you decided yet?
What is it, teacher?
You're the only one in my class who hasn't.
?

PATH.
ME, AS A PRO...
Professional pianist?
I'VE BEGUN TO THINK THAT I WANT TO BE AN ODD PIANIST.
You're still thinking?
Sorry.
It's good to put some thought in, but please hurry up.
Otherwise, you'll fall behind on your exams and backup plans
PATH.
FUTURE
Will do.
Try chatting with the music teacher, Mr. Andou.
You should also consider a music high school.

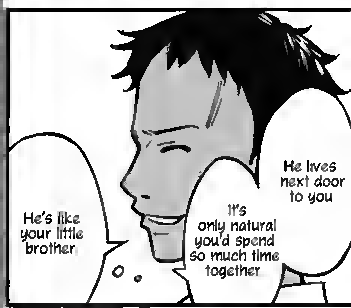
WHAT KIND OF PERSON DO I WANT TO BE?
And then
he dropped his ice cream bar on the beach.

So he started crying
Hahaha
He wouldn't stop crying, and it was such a pain,
so I ended up giving him the ice cream bar that I was eating.
And then..
"I like the milk flavored one more," he said.
Ah!
I DID IT AGAIN ...
Sorry
Um..
歩行者優先

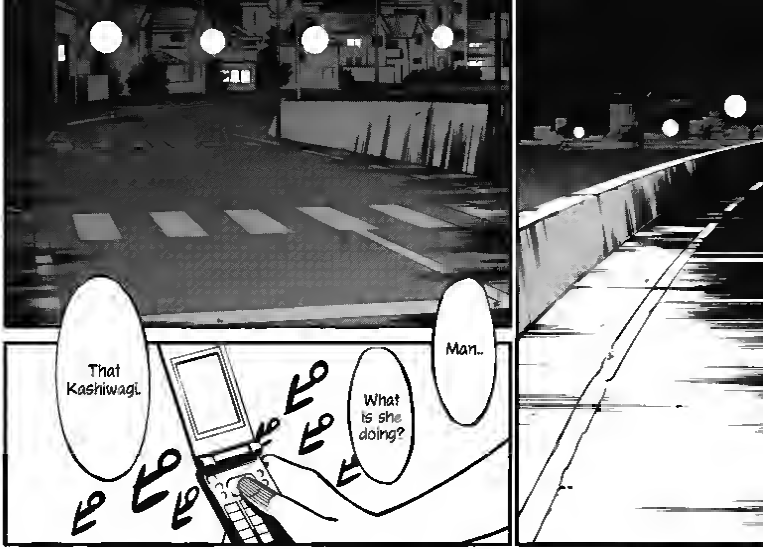
EDITORIAL RECOMMENDED
DATING A GUY TOP 10 RULES
Bring a handkerchief
Do not shoplift
Do not overeat
4. Do not talk about other guys
Do not pick your teeth outside of the bathroom
Dang!!!
These Arima stories are fun.
It's fine.

THAT'S WRONG !!!
I'M NOT KOUSEI'S BABY-SITTER!
Then... what am I?

Um..
I thought about the stuff I talk to you about, senpai
And it's always that.
Unconsciously


He lives next door to you
It's only natural you'd spend so much time together
He's like your little brother

I COULDN'T IGNORE HIM.
AND HE LOST HIS MOTHER SO EARLY,
FOR ME, SINCE WE WERE YOUNG...
OUR HOMES ARE NEXT TO EACH OTHER.
THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT...
IT'S ALWAYS BEEN JUST THAT...
HE'S THE BOY I WANTED TO MAKE LIVELY AGAIN.


That Kashiwagi.
What is she doing?
Man..

Insensitive.
It's fine that she's giving me advice,
but I don't understand where she's coming from with some of these things.
Ice queen

You've gotta use your heart here.
Are you stupid?! How about you use your brain a bit, instead of using your muscles?
You said that you "didn't dislike" Saitou-senpai before, right?
I don't get it.
Like?
Not dislike?
But there's tens of thousands of light years
between "not disliking" and "liking," you know?

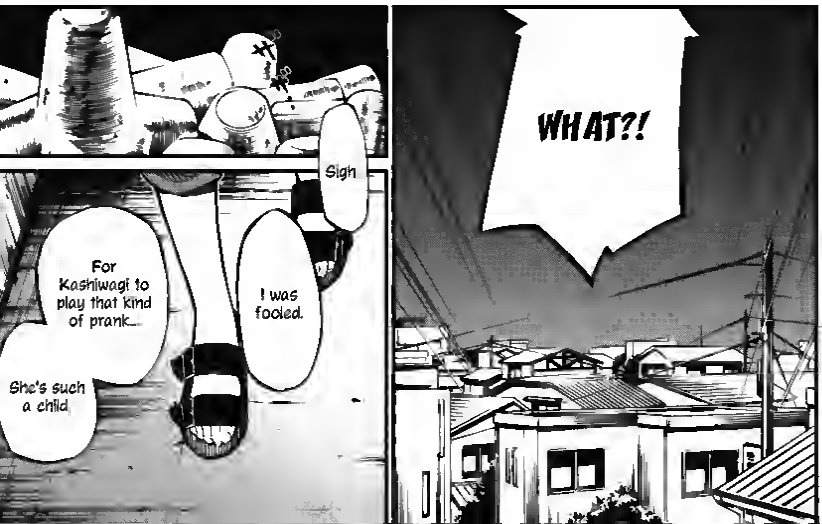
If you aren't honest and aware of what you want, sooner or later, someone is gonna get hurt.
It's no longer the era of the hopeless romantic.
That's something that should be obvious.
Do you dislike me?
NOT AT ALL.
YOU'RE THE SENPAI THAT I ADMIRE...

Then do you like him?
WHO DO I LIKE?
I like him.
I don't dislike him.
I like him.
I don't dislike him.
I like him.
I don't dislike him.
I like him.
I don't dislike him.

..Kousei
I LIKE...

?
?
?
?
DID YOU EAT SOME WEIRD FOOD?
FOOD POISONING?
WHAT'S GOING ON? ARE YOU OKAY? DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
ARE YOU SICK?
ARE YOU INJURED?

I GOT A CALL FROM KASHIWAGI.
"TSUBAKI'S IN TROUBLE," SHE SAID.

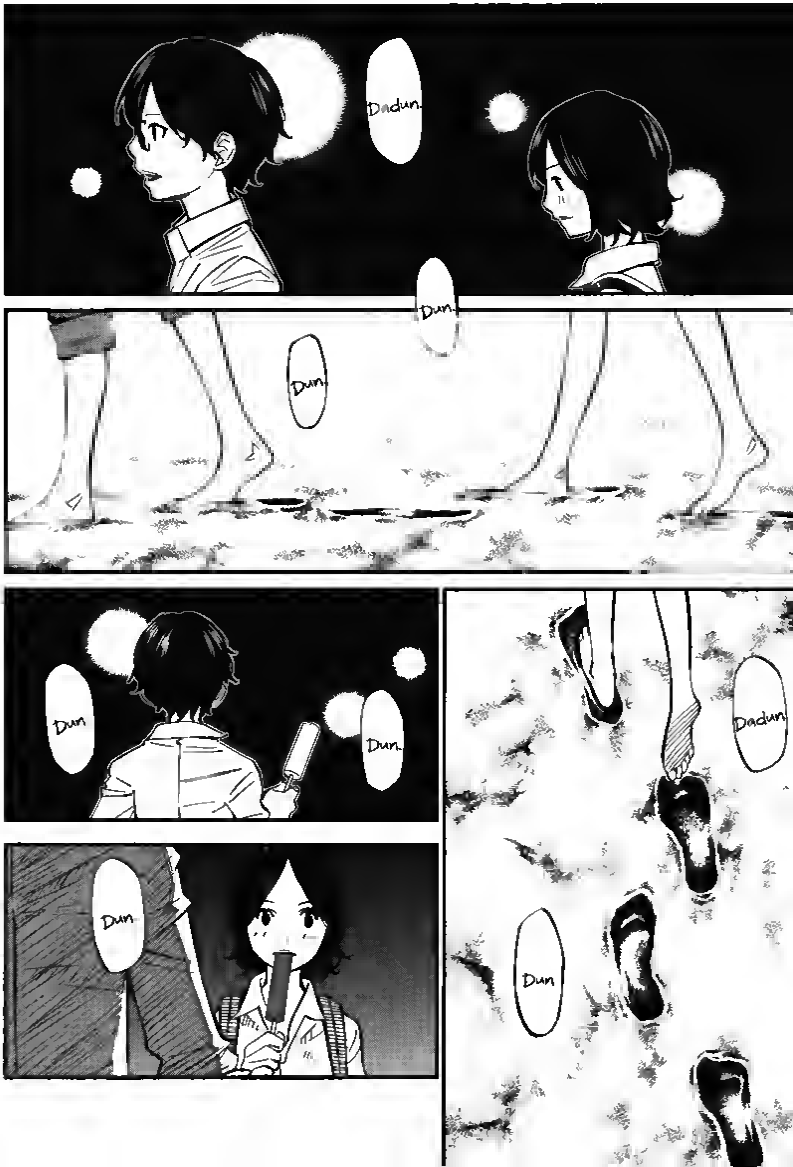

WHAT?!
Sigh
I was fooled.
For Kashiwagi to play that kind of prank...
She's such a child

It's not funny
Ahaha!
Kashiwagi saying that has a strange kind of impact, huh?
I was running all around because I believed her.
I was completely tricked!!!
Sigh
Now I'm sweating all over.
Thanks a bunch.
I want an ice cream bar.
Chewp

Munch
Munch
Milk flavored again?
That's a pretty weird preference you have.
They only have 3 flavors to choose from.
I like this.
Even though chocolate is so delicious..
Look, Tsubaki.
It's a full moon.

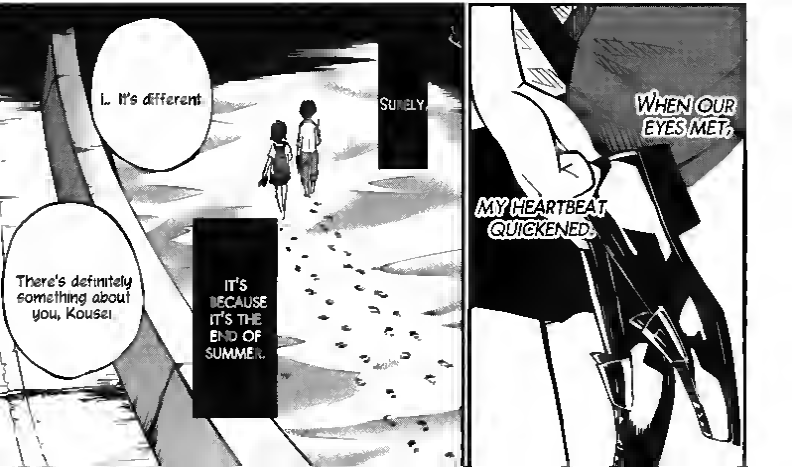
Da dun.
Dun.
Dun.
Dun.
Hmm?
You know this pretty well.
Dun.
Dun.
Da dun.
Dun.
THE PLAYFUL JOKES
THE USUAL CONVERSATIONS.
It was terrible, but I still listened
I didn't play it that much.
It's because I always heard it from my neighbor's house, to the point of getting sick of it.
Right outside the gate.

Dum.
Dum.
BEET-HOVEN'S "MOON" LIGHT SONATA"
THE PLEASANT FEELING OF SAND IN MY TOES.
HUMMING.
A BOY'S FOOT-PRINTS.
BIG FOOT-PRINTS.
BIGGER THAN MINE.


Dadun.
Dun.
Dun.
Dun
Dun.
Dun.
Dadun.
Dun.

Eh?
Really?
Kousei.
Something's different about you.
トキン

STRANGE...


I... It's different
SURELY,
There's definitely something about you, Kousei.
IT'S BECAUSE IT'S THE END OF SUMMER.
WHEN OUR EYES MET,
MY HEARTBEAT QUICKENED.

WHEN YOU'RE PLAYING PIANO.
Espe-cially
It's like your eyes are shining,
glimmering like a car's headlights!
Kousei's...
kindness...
and feelings reach out...
and overflow.
It's like you're shouting out
that you're there.

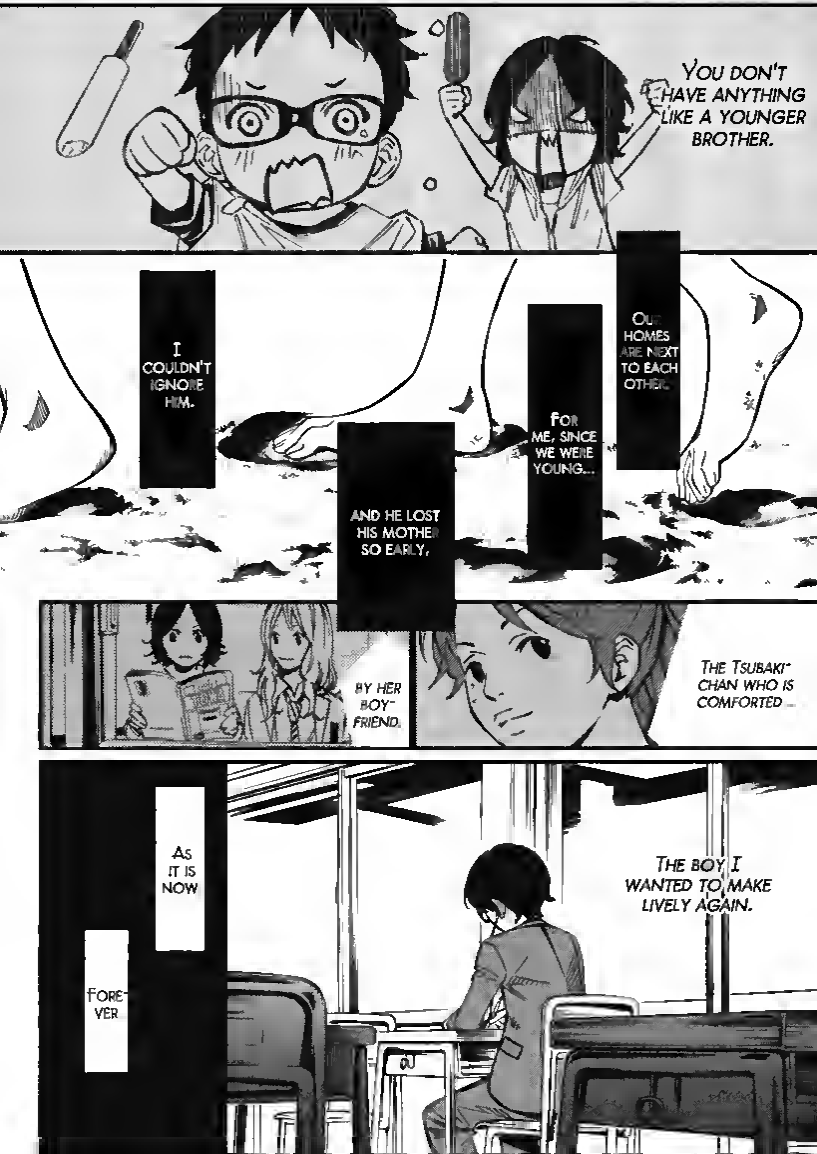
Kousei is a pianist.
That sort of thing reaches me.
Even a music amateur like me can tell that...
You are, by all means...
an artist.
Tsubaki.
Hm?

Hiroko said...
commuting twice a week would be fine.
Huh?
Huh?
Huh?
Huh?
I'm going to move out.
Tsubaki,
I'm going to a high school with a music program.
That's why
I probably won't be able to commute from home.
They're all far away.
Of course, it's not as if I've passed the exams yet.
It's not all set in stone.
That kind of high school..
Are there any around this area?

IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN.
AGAIN.

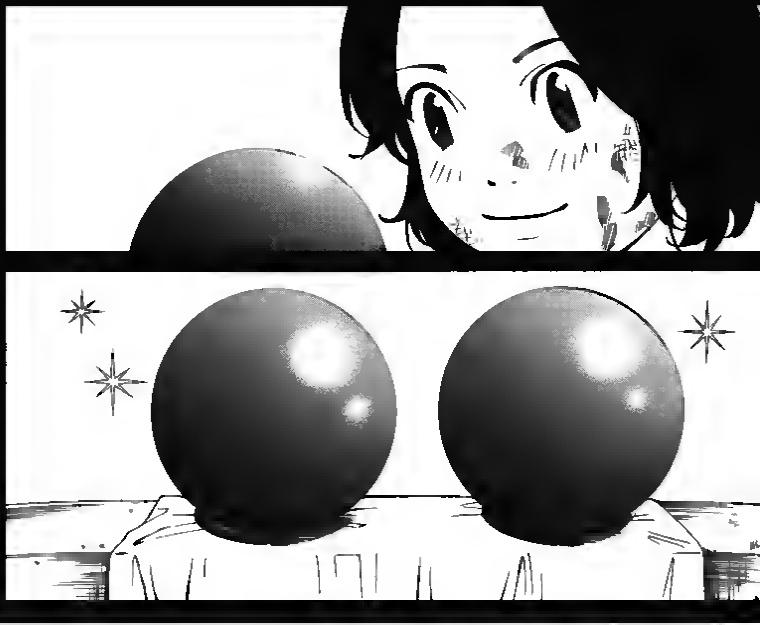
JUST LIKE...
THAT TIME.
MUSIC...
IS TAKING KOUSEI FAR AWAY.
STU-PID.
STUPID KOUSEI.
KEEPING QUIET ABOUT SUCH AN IMPORTANT THING
I'm going to move out.

ARE MY TEARS FALLING LIKE THIS?
EVEN SO, WHY...
Don't go anywhere,
stupid Kousei.
YOU'RE AN ONLY CHILD.


You don't have anything like a younger brother.
I couldn't ignore him.
Our homes are next to each other.
For me, since we were young...
And he lost his mother so early.
By her boyfriend.
The Tsubaki-chan who is comforted...
The boy I wanted to make lively again.
As it is now
Forever

One day, it'll be too late to fix this situation.
BE BY MY SIDE.
I THOUGHT WOULD ALWAYS...
THE BOY...
THE BOY I WANTED BY MY SIDE FOREVER.
Tsubaki.

I'm...
an idiot, huh



I'll surprise him, that Kousei
Hehehe.
Hehehe.

Special Thanks

大澤徹訓
菅野雅紀
池田梨枝子
山崎香
神谷美寛
TOPPAN HALL
KAWAGUCHI LILIA
音楽堂anoano
キング関口台スタジオ
横浜みなとみらいホール
魚沼市小出郷文化会館

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月刊少年マガジン編集部「四月は君の嘘」KC係
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作品初出／月刊少年マガジン2013年5月号～8月号

装丁／朝倉健司

講談社コミックス KCGM1387

四月は君の嘘(しがつきみうそ)⑦

2013年 9月17日 第1刷発行(定価はカバーに表示してあります)

著 者 新川直司(あらかわなおし)
©Naoshi Arakawa 2013

発行者 清水保雅
発行所 株式会社 講談社
〒112-8001 東京都文京区音羽2-12-21
電話番号 編集部 東京(03)5395-3458
販売部 東京(03)5395-3608
業務部 東京(03)5395-3603
印刷所 大日本印刷株式会社
本文製版所 株式会社二葉写真製版
製本所 株式会社フォーネット社
講談社

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NDC726 191p 18cm Printed in Japan ISBN978-4-06-371387-9